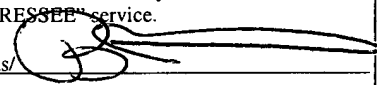


PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	Liepold et al.	Examiner:	Unassigned
Application No.:	Unassigned	Group Art Unit:	Unassigned
Confirmation No.:	Unassigned	Docket:	1350-3 PCT/US
Filed:	Herewith	Dated:	January 31, 2006
For:	A VALVE	Date:	January 31, 2006 Label No. EV749581628US

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Signed: Barbara Thomas 

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING  
NATIONAL PHASE FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. §371**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments** to the Specification begin on page 2 of this submission.

**Amendments** to the Claims begin on page 3 of this submission.

**Remarks** begin on page 14 of this submission.